

**Hamilton County Airport Authority
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana 46060**

January 5, 2009

Hamilton County Commissioners, and
County Council
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana 46060

Re: Airport Authority 2008 Annual Report

Dear Commissioners and Council Members:

The year 2008 brought the completion of the first five years of ownership of Indianapolis Executive Airport by Hamilton County. During those five years technical studies to responsibly guide the future decisions have been completed on how to properly handle drainage, storm water management, inspect the condition of all of the site wiring and conduit, update the airport master plan for aviation physical needs, review wetlands on airport property, and complete an FAA approved model on the potential noise impacts of future physical needs alternatives. A marketing study was done to determine how to expand user awareness of the facilities with partial funding from the Hamilton County Visitors and Tourism Bureau. A detailed study to determine the best feasible method to rehabilitate the runway for an anticipated \$3,000,000 INDOT and FAA funded project in 2010 has been authorized and is currently underway. Physical improvements completed under public ownership have included major repairs to eliminate significant cracks in the runway, replacement of the runway lights along with significant portions of the lighting conduit and wiring, a new parallel taxiway to eliminate back taxiing on the runway, new reflective markers on the new taxiway, relocation of the antenna for the a major part of the instrument landing system, major updating of the electronics for the instrument landing system, a new taxiway enabling construction of new T-hangers, and a new security system on all access points to the air field. Private investment in the facility has brought a new corporate hanger, new T-Hangers, new Airport Mangers residence and a new terminal with the only covered terminal access in the Midwest. Management of the facilities has gone from a four person Board of Aviation Commissioners to the five



person, Board of the Hamilton County Airport Authority, with a 6th non-voting member appointed by Boone County. The final payment on the \$4,625,000 for the purchase of the land by Hamilton County taxpayers was made in 2008. To date FAA has reimbursed Hamilton County \$855,000 on the land purchase as part of the over \$4,000,000 in grant funds received. This investment along with \$610,000 of Hamilton County tax funded support over those five years has provided Hamilton, Boone and Marion Counties the economic benefit of having quality air transportation. The estimated annual economic impact of Indianapolis Executive Airport has grown from \$32,000,000 in 2003 to over \$44,000,000 in 2005. A new study of economic impact for 2008 will be released in early 2009 and it is expected to increase.

The Hamilton County Airport Authority welcomed Mr. Scott Alexander as an advisory member from Boone County in 2008. Mr. Alexander's experience as an attorney representing Indianapolis International Airport brings welcome council to our ranks.

Fuel sales in 2008 were 479,361 gallons of Jet "A" fuel and 82,769 gallons of 100LL for a total of 562,130 gallons. The level of Jet "A" fuel sales reflects the impact of corporate jet business coming to our area. The plane shown in the photograph below is purchasing 850 gallons of fuel preparing to leave on January 7th, 2008. With aviation fuel over \$5.00 per gallon last year, the economic importance of business jet travel to Indianapolis Executive Airport and the ability to serve our customers in all weather is readily understood.

In July, a public meeting was held to inform the public of the technical Master Plan findings to date. Public comments received were predominately supportive of the study efforts. Views offered objecting to specific alternatives being considered due to anticipated noise, were subsequently documented to be based upon erroneous assumptions with completion of the noise modeling efforts. None of the alternatives under consideration for the twenty year planning period or beyond were found to have significant negative noise impact on surrounding properties, including Union Elementary School. The draft Master Plan will be reviewed by FAA and the document itself will then be completed after FAA comments are received.

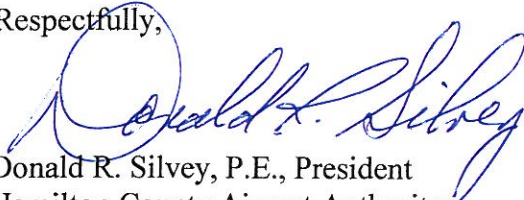


Completion of the Master Plan will allow completion of the drawings known as the Airport Layout Plan, which is the final document required for FAA approval of any significant future airport improvements. This is abbreviated and known as the "ALP".

The year 2009 is promising to be a major year for the future of Indianapolis Executive Airport. With completion of the Master Plan effort and the approval of the Airport Layout Plan, the work toward achieving the needs for the next 20 years will be able to begin. Decisions on improvements will be able to be guided based on technically sound knowledge of the impacts created and the benefits to be achieved. Coordination with the newly consolidated Town of Zionsville, Eagle Township and Union Township for zoning and planned development around the airport will enable the new zoning scheduled to take effect in 2010 to be mutually beneficial.

The Hamilton County Airport Authority wishes to thank the County Commissioners, County Council, our Attorney, Mike Howard, our Council Liaisons Brad Beaver and Rick McKinney, our secretary Kim Rouch, and the Auditor's office, Dan and Andrea Montgomery of Montgomery Aviation, our engineers Chris Snyder and Michael Evans of Woopert, Inc, Maria Muia of Aerofinity, INDOT and FAA for making it possible for Indianapolis Executive Airport to have the progress and ability to contribute to the economic benefit of Hamilton, Boone and Marion County. We look forward to the progress of the next five years and even greater contributions to the economic welfare of our area and the quality of our citizen's lives.

Respectfully,



Donald R. Silvey, P.E., President
Hamilton County Airport Authority

Cc: Boone County Commissioners
Town Of Zionsville
Union Township Trustee
Zionsville Community Schools